# TeleStroke support from UW Medicine Stroke Center At Harborview Medical Center





### **Overall Description**

- TeleStroke consultation based on direct telephone consultation between remote ED physician and HMC Vascular Neurologist
- Remote images reviewed
- Plans made collaboratively
  - Stay local for all treatment
  - Start local treatment then transfer
  - Transfer
- Zero cost for remote hospitals, changing...
- No remote credentialling





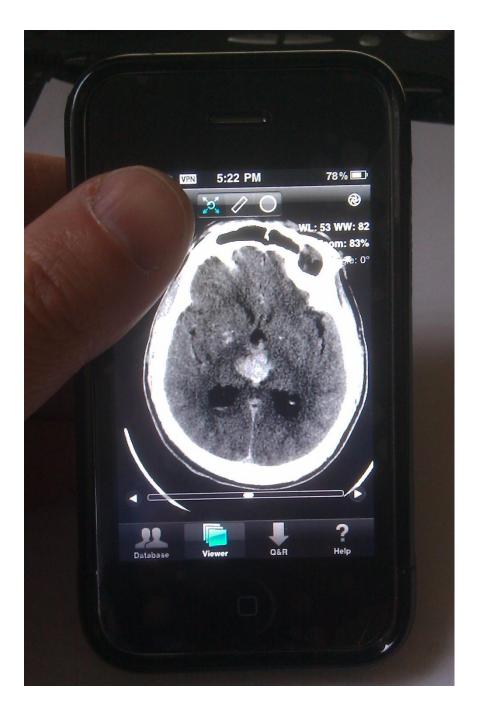
## Technology

- Cell phones (iPhones)
- Remote image transfer
  - Via pre-arranged VPN connection
  - Transfer time depends on number of images
    - Non-contrast head < 5min, then immediately available for review</li>
- Remote image review
  - Via HMC PACS servers
  - Login via
    - Computer with std internet connection
    - Computer with mobile connection
    - iPhone image review





## Head CT on iPhone







## How do ED docs from our hospital consult with stroke neurologists at yours?

Call UW Medicine Transfer Center at 888.731.4791, ask for a Stroke Consultation or the Stroke Phone

Transfer Center nurse will advise remote ED MD to push CT images to HMC servers, and get Stroke Neurologist on the phone immediately

Case and images discussed between remote ED MD and Stroke Neurologist, decisions collaboratively made about best plan of care

Treatment plan initiated locally, transfer in appropriate cases





## Is it costly?

- Traditionally NO COST
  - Community service
- Changing competitive environment
  - Hospitals forming networks and agreements
  - Stroke Services amongst many being marketed
  - Fair market value for services leads to payment by hospitals
  - Reimbursement for this type of work still a major issue





## More formal agreements include...

- Immediate access to vascular neurologists 24/7
- Emergency consultation, including image review
- Direct, physician-to-physician contact
- Education and research about the latest stroke treatments and diagnostic tests
- Evidence-based clinical protocols and practice guidelines
- Regular case review and quality improvement activities
- Multidisciplinary consultation and follow-up with patients with complex conditions





#### Questions

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